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Also see [CDMA](#), [CDMA One](#), and [CDMA2000](#).

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WCDMA (wideband code-division multiple access), an ITU standard derived from code-division multiple access ([CDMA](#)), is officially known as IMT-2000 direct spread. WCDMA is a third-generation ([3G](#)) mobile wireless

technology offering much higher data speeds to mobile and portable wireless devices than commonly offered in today's market.

WCDMA can support mobile/portable voice, images, data, and video communications at up to 2 [Mbps](#) (local area access) or 384 [Kbps](#) (wide area access). The input signals are digitized and transmitted in coded, spread-spectrum mode over a broad range of frequencies. A 5 [MHz](#)-wide carrier is used, compared with 200 [kHz](#)-wide carrier for narrowband CDMA.

Read more about it:

- >> [Ericsson offers "WCDMA: The Wideband Radio Pipe for 3G Services."](#)
- >> [Qualcomm is developing single-chip WCDMA modems.](#)

Last updated on: Jul 28, 2001

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